

MAY 2022



# RECYCLING MATTERS

FOR A WASTE-FREE COLLAR CITY

## WHAT'S INSIDE OUR NEWSLETTER:

THE 12 R'S OF 2022

RETHINK

COMMUNITY NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS  
SCHEDULE

## 12 R's of 2022

A fresh coat of paint really does wonders. In honor of the thousands (maybe even millions) of do-it-yourself projects that happened during quarantine, and a very special music and art installation here in the Collar City, this month's R is repaint! We touched base with Sophia Vastek from Organ Colossal to hear more about the Troy Street Pianos Project, a great example of repainting new life into instruments so they can be of use ☑

## Repaint

It might sound a little strange that this issue of Recycling Matters is about repainting, but ask yourself - could a layer of paint improve things for you? A new paint job could spruce up that dresser you hate looking at, or jazz up the nightstand that doesn't feel like you anymore.

### The power of DIY (Do it Yourself):

You can choose to upgrade items for yourself, or others as well. If you'd like to get rid of or sell something but think it may do better with some TLC, repaint it and see how it looks. Local thrift stores, Facebook Marketplace, or Buy Nothing groups would love to see your redesigned masterpiece!

### Disposing of your paints safely and responsibly:

**Oil based paints:** oil-based paints are hazardous, and must be brought to a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) day. Keep your eyes peeled for an upcoming announcement for 2022 dates, locations, and registration information!

**Latex-based paints:** latex paints are not hazardous. Mix half-full or less cans of latex paint with cat litter, and leave in a well-ventilated area to dry out completely. When it's fully dry, you can throw out the paint (in its can) into your regular garbage. The lid should be thrown out separately, and not put back on the can.



*Pictured: a large surfaced paint brush, a hazardous waste symbol in yellow, and a paint can with red paint.*

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# Community News

## Organ Colossal

Organ Colossal is a relatively new non-profit organization on 2nd Street here in Troy. Sophia Vastek, Director and founder, gave us some highlights on the Troy Street Piano project, one of their first steps towards sustainability in arts and music.

"I think [Troy Street Pianos] is an expansion of our mission of making music and the arts as accessible as possible. There are no expectations, no pressure; [the pianos] belong to [the] communities, whoever walks by." Vastek said.

Artists Chloe Harrison, Fernando Orellana, and ObaroEne! each repainted a piano to be placed throughout Troy. These pianos are covered to protect them from the weather, but still accessible for all to use and enjoy.

### Locations:

The Snowman (531 5th Ave)

518 Craft (2nd and Broadway)

Lots of Hope Park (2nd and Jackson)



*Pictured: "The In Crowd" by artist Fernando Corellana.  
Located at the Snowman.*

Organ Colossal worked with Artist Pianos in Latham to find pianos which could still be played, but not sold, ready for public use.

"They don't have any resale value but there's still so much life in these instruments- putting them out on the streets, having them painted, it gives them a second life in a way." Vastek said.

The art and music industries have their own set of challenges when striving for sustainability. When musicians tour, bus, car, and airplane miles add up. Organ Colossal combats this by collaborating with regional and local artists, like through their 2021 and 2022 project, **the Lift Series**.

"I think there are a lot of ways we can bring sustainability to music in general. Even just as simple as not having [disposable] water bottles at a performance, for example." Vastek said.



*Pictured: "Waiting to be Heard" by artist Chloe Harrison.  
Located at 518 Craft.*

The Troy Street Pianos project is a beautiful first step into blending music, the arts, and this month's R, repaint.

To learn more about Organ Colossal's mission, or to see what other events they've got planned for the future, visit <https://www.organcolossal.com/what>. You can also follow them on Instagram. Their handle is [@organcolossal](https://www.instagram.com/organcolossal).



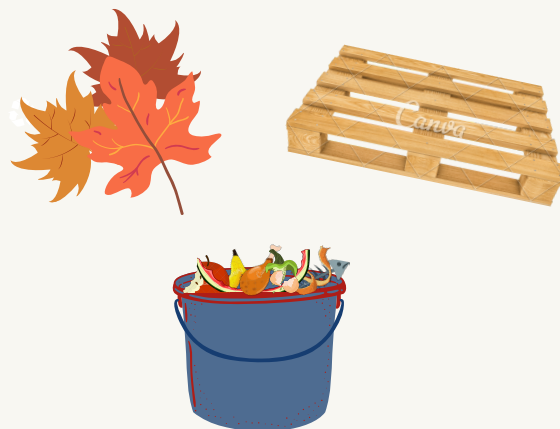
*Pictured: "Street Art Piano 4Mx 'Heart & Soul'" by artist ObaRoEne! Located at Lots of Hope Park.*

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# The Troy Resource Management Facility's Hours Have Expanded

In case you missed it, the Troy Resource Management Facility's (formerly known as the Alamo) hours have expanded to include Tuesdays! This means you can access the following services both Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 AM to 1 PM:

- Food scraps drop-off
- Brush, branches, and bagged leaves drop-off
- Wood chip pick-up
- Pallet pick-up  
(make your own backyard composter!)



*Pictured: several Fall leaves, a wooden pallet, and a blue bucket full of food scraps.*



## Did someone say reusable bags?

**To all nonprofit or community/neighborhood organizations:** we've got boxes of bags! If your organization is interested in receiving 1-100 reusable bags (in a variety of colors), please contact us at [recycling@troyny.gov](mailto:recycling@troyny.gov) or call (518) 279-7171 to arrange a pick-up.

## Upcoming Events

COMMUNITY-BASED SUSTAINABLE EVENTS

**TROY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FACILITY (ALAMO) OPEN**

**TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS, 9 TO 1**

**COMPOSTING WORKSHOP @ TROY PUBLIC LIBRARY - LANSINGBURGH**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 4**

**REGISTER AT [HTTPS://BIT.LY/COMPOST-WORKSHOP-REGISTRATION](https://bit.ly/compost-workshop-registration)**

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